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FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 1954

Chuck Spofford came to see me this morning. He has just arrived in Paris from Turkey, where he has been engaged on legal business. He preserves his keen interest in NATO matters.

I had lunch with E. at Chez Marius.

At three o'clock I attended a meeting at the Talleyrand presided over by Livie Merchant, who had just arrived. Cort Schuyler and some of the officers from SHAPE, General Cook, Messrs. Hughes, Dillon, etc., were present. We talked about the attitude to be adopted by the American Delegation at London. All seemed agreed the United States should not throw its weight about or crystallize its ideas, but be prepared to be helpful in bringing about a concord. Dillon expressed doubt whether any solution would prove acceptable to the French Parliament, many members of which, he thought, would vote against Mendès, regardless of the agreement, in an effort to topple him over. There was considerable skepticism regarding the French proposal for armament production limitations, since, as drafted, it would be so plainly discriminatory against Germany, would certainly be resisted by Holland, and, in any event, was such a complicated subject it would take weeks of negotiation to arrive at a text worthy of consideration.

I went tonight to dinner at John Hughes's, where we resumed the afternoon's discussion.

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